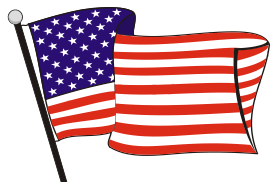


**Ambassador Tatiana C. Gfoeller**



**Statement  
for the Green Border Port Complex ceremony  
at Kadamjai Port of Entry**

**Kyrgyz-Uzbek border, the Kyrgyz Republic**

**August 11, 2009**

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Colonel Mirzamatov, honored guests:

It is an honor for me to be here today to celebrate this important Kyrgyz-U.S. joint project. The completion of five more new Green Border Posts in the Batken and Osh oblasts is an excellent example of what can be accomplished when we work together. Today we celebrate the opening of new facilities at Yntymak, Palman, Kaitpas, Chekelik and here at Kadamjai. These new

facilities are among 24 Green Border Posts that are being jointly funded by the U.S. Embassy Export Control and Related Border Security Program and the U.S. Central Command. The U.S. Embassy has a long history of partnership with the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic in curbing illegal trafficking of contraband, drugs, weapons, and people. Since the Export Control and Related Border Security Program began in Kyrgyz Republic in 2000, it has provided 20 million dollars in technical assistance to secure Kyrgyzstan's borders.

You may ask why the U.S. is so committed to the border security of a country so distant from America. But the tragic events of the past several years, including the terrorist incursions in the South of Kyrgyz Republic and the 9/11 attacks, have proven that the world is increasingly inner-connected – that terrorists know no borders and that a threat to one country, to one region, is a threat to world security. The U.S. has a vested interest in the security and stability of the Kyrgyz Republic, and we work hard in many arenas to make Kyrgyzstan a more stable, more secure, more prosperous place. We actively cooperate in areas such as judicial reform and the development of rule-of-law, security assistance, humanitarian assistance, economic development, and in education and culture. Border security is just one of many programs, but it is a program that is vital, now more than ever, in this age of terrorism. I commend the Kyrgyz Republic for its strong commitment to improving the security of its borders. The steps you have taken, in renovating border crossings, modernizing equipment, and better training and equipping your personnel, contribute not only to your security, but also to the security of the entire region, and indeed the world. This makes the world a safer place, and for that, we thank you!